

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 1-23, 28-121, 133-134, 137-139, 151-169, 178, 181-182, 187-193, 197-200, 205-220, 222, 224, 226, 231-243, 245-291, 298-301, 306-333 are 338-404 are cancelled.

In addition, claims 24-27, 122-132, 135-136, 140-150, 170-177, 179-180, 183-186, 194-196, 201-204, 225, 227-230, 244, 292-297, 302-305 and 334-337 are amended. Claims 221 and 223 remain in the application.

Furthermore, claims 405-422 are added. New claims 405-422 presented herein read on Invention I elected in the October 25, 2005 Response to Restriction Requirement.

Thus, claims 24-27, 122-132, 135-136, 140-150, 170-177, 179-180, 183-186, 194-196, 201-204, 221, 223, 225, 227-230, 244, 292-297, 302-305, 334-337 and 405-422 are active in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

The Applicants note that the Examiner failed to acknowledge, in item 12 of the Office Action Summary form, the Applicants' claim of foreign priority to Japanese Patent Application No. 326736/1996, filed December 6, 1996, as asserted in the Declaration of the present application, and the receipt of the certified copy of the foreign priority document.

The present application is a divisional of U.S. Serial No. 08/962,563, filed October 31, 1997. A certified copy of the foreign priority document is of record in the parent application. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to acknowledge the Applicants' claim of foreign priority and the receipt of the certified copy of the foreign priority document.

In item 4 on pages 2-3 of the Office Action, claims 1-27, 89-94, 122-151, 170-186, 194-196, 201-208, 220-230, 234-237, 242-245, 274-279, 282, 285-305, 322-331, 334-337 and 351-358 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Civanlar et al. (U.S. 5,737,333, hereinafter "Civanlar").

This rejection is believed to be moot with respect to claims 1-23, 89-94, 133-134, 137-139, 151, 178, 181-182, 205-208, 220, 222, 224, 226, 234-237, 245, 274-279, 282, 285-291, 298-301, 322-321 and 351-358 in view of the cancellation of these claims.

The rejection of claims 24-27, 122-132, 135-136, 140-150, 170-177, 179-180, 183-186, 194-196, 201-204, 221, 223, 225, 227-230, 244, 292-297, 302-305 and 334-337 is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Furthermore, the Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is inapplicable to new claims 405-422 for the following reasons.

Civanlar discloses a system for interconnecting ATM-attached hosts with telephone-network (ISDN) attached hosts. In particular, Civanlar discloses that ISDN and ATM are connected through an interface (e.g., RouTel 101, RouTel database 105), and TNA-hosts 107, 109I 111 and 113n are connected to the ISDN and a broadcast server 125, and that the ATM-attached hosts 115, 117 are connected to the ATM.

However, Civanlar does not even contemplate using an IP network as claimed in the present invention. Furthermore, Civanlar merely discloses that the destination address in the ISDN is the ISDN address, and the destination address in the ATM is the ATM address.

On the other hand, communication is carried out in the claimed invention by using an IP frame including an IP address. Accordingly, the present invention is markedly different from Civanlar.

Furthermore, the claimed invention provides that a transmitting access control apparatus or terminal device receives an ICS user frame from an ICS logic terminal and converts the ICS user frame into a ICS network frame, which is then transmitted to a receiving access control apparatus or terminal device. The ICS network frame is then restored to the ICS user frame by the receiving control apparatus or terminal device.

Civanlar does not even contemplate this arrangement of the present invention. The present invention enables communication over a variety of computer networks, whether they are intra-corporation or inter-corporation, for example. In particular, an access control apparatus of a transmitting side serves as an access point for connecting a plurality of communication equipments to one or more terminals assigned to the access control apparatus. The access control apparatus administers mutual conversion between address systems such that computer terminals can communicate with each other even though they have different address systems.

The Applicants respectfully submit that Civanlar clearly does not disclose or suggest that communication is carried out in the claimed invention by using an IP frame including an IP address.

Furthermore, the Applicants respectfully submit that Civanlar clearly does not disclose or suggest that a transmitting access control apparatus or terminal device receives an ICS user frame from an ICS logic terminal and converts the ICS user frame into a ICS network frame, that the ICS network frame is then transmitted to a receiving access control apparatus or terminal device, which then restores the ICS network frame to the ICS user frame.

Each of the independent claims of the present invention recite the above-described features of the present invention.

Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is clearly patentable over Civanlar since Civanlar fails to disclose or suggest each and every limitation of the claimed invention.

Furthermore, it is submitted that the clear distinctions discussed above are such that a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would not have been motivated to modify Civanlar in such as manner as to result in, or otherwise render obvious, the present invention as recited in claims 24-27, 122-132, 135-136, 140-150, 170-177, 179-180, 183-186, 194-196, 201-204, 221, 223, 225, 227-230, 244, 292-297, 302-305, 334-337 and 405-422.

Therefore, it is submitted that the claims 24-27, 122-132, 135-136, 140-150, 170-177, 179-180, 183-186, 194-196, 201-204, 221, 223, 225, 227-230, 244, 292-297, 302-305, 334-337 and 405-422 are clearly allowable over the prior art as applied by the Examiner.

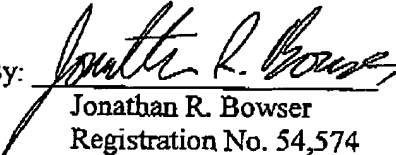
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is clearly in condition for allowance. An early notice thereof is respectfully solicited.

If, after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner feels there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

A fee and a Petition for a three-month Extension of Time are filed herewith pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.136(a).

Respectfully submitted,

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